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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound having the following structure:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_{2} & R_{3} \\
N & N \\
N & N
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_{3} & Ar \\
Het
\end{array}$$

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, solvate, stereoisomer or prodrug thereof,

wherein:

"---" represents the second bond of an optional double bond;

R₁ is hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, -NH₂, or halogen;

 R_2 is alkyl, substituted alkyl, $-C(O)NR_7R_8$, aryl, substituted aryl, aryloxyalkyl, substituted aryloxyalkyl, heteroarylalkoxyalkyl, substituted heteroarylalkoxyalkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, heteroaryl, or substituted heteroaryl, wherein said heteroaryl or substituted heteroaryl is connected to the pyrimidine ring via a carbon-carbon bond;

R₃ is null, hydrogen, or alkyl;

Y is $=(CR_4)$ - or -(C=O)-;

R₄ is hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, thioalkyl, alkylsulfinyl, or alkylsulfonyl;

Ar is phenyl, phenyl substituted with 1 or 2 R_5 , pyridyl or pyridyl substituted with 1 or 2 R_5 .

R₅ at each occurrence is hydroxy, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, cyano, halogen, alkylsulfonyl, or alkylsulfinyl;

Het is heteroaryl optionally substituted with 1 or 2 R₆;

R₆ at each occurrence is hydroxy, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, cyano, or halogen; and

R₇ and R₈ are independently hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heterocycle, substituted heterocycle, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, heterocyclealkyl or substituted heterocyclealkyl; or

 $$\rm R_{7}$$ and $\rm R_{8}$ taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring or a substituted heterocyclic ring.

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2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R_1 is hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, -NH₂, or halogen.

- 3. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R_2 is alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, or substituted heteroaryl, wherein said heteroaryl or substituted heteroaryl is connected to the pyrimidine ring via a carbon-carbon bond.
 - 4. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₃ is null.
 - 5. A compound according to claim 4 wherein Y is $=(CR_4)$ -.
- 6. A compound according to claim 5 wherein R₄ is hydrogen, alkyl, or substituted alkyl.
- 7. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₃ is hydrogen or alkyl.
 - 8 A compound according to claim 7 wherein Y is –(C=O)-.
- 9. A compound according to claim 1 wherein Ar is phenyl substituted with 1 R_{5} .
- 10. A compound according to claim 9 wherein R_5 is alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, cyano, halogen, alkylsulfonyl, or alkylsulfinyl.
- 11. A compound according to claim 1 wherein Het is substituted with 1 R_6 .
- 12. A compound according to claim 11 wherein R_{θ} is alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, cyano, or halogen.
 - 13. A compound according to claim 1,

wherein:

R₁ is hydrogen, alkyl or substituted alkyl;

R₃ is null;

Y is $=(CR_4)$ -;

R₄ is hydrogen, alkyl or substituted alkyl;

Ar is phenyl substituted with one R5;

 R_5 is alkyl, aubstituted alkyl, alkoxy or substituted alkoxy; and Het is heteroaryl.

14. A compound according to claim 13,

wherein:

R₁ is lower alkyl;

R₄ is lower alkyl;

R₅ is alkoxy; and

Het is pyrazolyl.

15. A compound according to claim 14,

wherein:

R₁ is methyl;

R₄ is methyl; and

R₅ is methoxy.

16. A compound according to claim15,

wherein:

 $\mbox{\it R}_2$ is alkyl, substituted arylalkyl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryloxyalkyl, heteroarylalkyl or substituted heteroarylalkyl.

17. A compound according to claim 16,

wherein:

R₂ is substituted arylalkyl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl or substituted heteroaryl.

18. A compound according to claim 17,

wherein:

R₂ is substituted benzyl, substituted phenyl, substituted pyrazolyl, pyridinyl or substituted pyridinyl.

19. A compound according to claim 18,

wherein:

R₂ is substituted pyrazolyl, pyridinyl or substituted pyridinyl.

20. A compound according to claim 19,

wherein:

R₂ is substituted pyridinyl.

21. A compound according to claim 20,

wherein:

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{R}}_2$ is methyl substituted pyridinyl or methoxy substituted pyridinyl.

22. A compound according to claim 21, wherein said compound is represented by the formula:

23. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

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24. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a mammal comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 23.

- 25. A method according to claim 24, wherein the disorder is stroke.
- 26. A method according to claim 24, wherein the disorder is depression.
- 27. A method according to claim 24, wherein the disorder is an anxiety-related disorder.
- 28. A method according to claim 24, wherein the disorder is obsessive-compulsive disorder.
- 29. A method according to claim 24, wherein the disorder is irritable bowel syndrome.
- 30. A method according to claim 24, wherein the disorder is anorexia nervosa.